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General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 14
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gambia, Guinea, Ireland, Kenya, Libya, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Day of Education

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Acknowledging the importance of education for achieving sustainable development, including in the context of the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals, Agenda 21,[1] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[2] the Education for All goals, the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Development,[3] and the Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4,

Recalling its resolution 72/222 of 20 December 2017 on education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as its resolution 70/209 of 22 December 2015 and other previous resolutions on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14 thereto, in which it is stated that an international year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Recognizing that education plays a key role in building sustainable and resilient societies and contributes to the achievement of all of the other Sustainable Development Goals; it increases the productivity of individuals and strengthens the potential for economic growth, develops the skills needed for decent work, develops the professional skills needed for sustainable development, including in the fields of water and sanitation, green energy and the conservation of natural resources, helps eradicate poverty and hunger, contributes to improved health, promotes gender equality and can reduce inequality, and promotes peace, the rule of law and respect for human rights,

Acknowledging the importance of working to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels — early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training — so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 24 January the International Day of Education;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, individuals and other relevant stakeholders to observe the International Day of Education in an appropriate manner and to continue to give consideration to enhancing international cooperation in support of the efforts of all Member States towards the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 4;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the specialized United Nations agency for education, to facilitate the observance of 24 January of every year as the International Day of Education, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

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[3] See A/69/76, annex.

United Nations A/73/L.39/Add.1

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 14
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gambia, Guinea, Ireland, Kenya, Libya, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Day of Education

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Afghanistan, Andorra, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Israel, Lithuania, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Norway, Panama, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine and Viet Nam

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General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 9
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Egypt:* draft resolution

Graduation of countries from the least developed country category

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/27 of 24 July 2018 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twentieth session,[1]

Taking into account its resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004, 65/286 of 29 June 2011 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Recalling paragraph 10 of its resolution 67/221, in which it decided to take note of the decisions of the Economic and Social Council regarding the graduation of countries from the least developed country category, as well as the inclusion of countries in that category, at the first session of the General Assembly following the adoption of the decisions,

Emphasizing that graduation from the least developed country category is a major milestone for the country involved as it means that significant progress has been made towards reaching at least some of its development goals,

1. *Reaffirms* that graduating from the category of least developed countries should not result in a disruption of development plans, programmes and projects;

2. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy that Bhutan be graduated from the least developed country category, also takes note of the fact that the Committee found reasonable the request by Bhutan to align the effective graduation date with the end of the country's twelfth national development plan, in 2023, and decides to provide Bhutan, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of two years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 13* (E/2018/33).

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3. *Invites* Bhutan to prepare, during the five-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

4. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Solomon Islands be graduated from the least developed country category, and decides to provide Solomon Islands, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of three years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

5. *Invites* Solomon Islands to prepare, during the six-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

6. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Sao Tome and Principe be graduated from the least developed country category, also takes note of the fact that the Committee found reasonable the request by Sao Tome and Principe to postpone its effective graduation date to 2024 so as to enable it to enact necessary internal reforms and align its transition strategy with its national development plan, and decides to provide Sao Tome and Principe, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of three years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

7. *Invites* Sao Tome and Principe to prepare, during the six-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

8. *Requests* the entities of the United Nations development system to provide assistance to graduating countries in the formulation and implementation of their national transition strategies and to consider country-specific support for graduated countries for a fixed period of time and in a predictable manner.

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General Assembly

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7 December 2018

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 9
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Egypt:* draft resolution

Graduation of countries from the least developed country category

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/27 of 24 July 2018 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twentieth session,[1]

Taking into account its resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004, 65/286 of 29 June 2011 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Recalling paragraph 10 of its resolution 67/221, in which it decided to take note of the decisions of the Economic and Social Council regarding the graduation of countries from the least developed country category, as well as the inclusion of countries in that category, at the first session of the General Assembly following the adoption of the decisions,

Emphasizing that graduation from the least developed country category is a major milestone for the country involved as it means that significant progress has been made towards reaching at least some of its development goals,

1. *Reaffirms* that graduating from the category of least developed countries should not result in a disruption of development plans, programmes and projects;

2. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy that Bhutan be graduated from the least developed country category, also takes note of the fact that the Committee found reasonable the request by Bhutan to align the effective graduation date with the end of the country's twelfth national development plan, in 2023, and decides to provide Bhutan, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of two years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 13* (E/2018/33).

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3. *Invites* Bhutan to prepare, during the five-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

4. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Solomon Islands be graduated from the least developed country category, and decides to provide Solomon Islands, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of three years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

5. *Invites* Solomon Islands to prepare, during the six-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners;

6. *Takes note* of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Sao Tome and Principe be graduated from the least developed country category, also takes note of the fact that the Committee found reasonable the request by Sao Tome and Principe to postpone its effective graduation date to 2024 so as to enable it to enact necessary internal reforms and align its transition strategy with its national development plan, and decides to provide Sao Tome and Principe, on an exceptional basis, with an additional preparatory period of three years before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation;

7. *Invites* Sao Tome and Principe to prepare, during the six-year period between the adoption of the present resolution and its graduation from the least developed country category, its national smooth-transition strategy, with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with its bilateral, regional and multilateral development and trading partners.

United Nations A/73/L.41

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 78 (b)
Oceans and the law of the sea: sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

Australia, Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Tonga and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its annual resolutions on sustainable fisheries, including resolution 72/72 of 5 December 2017, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[1] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement),[2]

Welcoming ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement and the fact that a growing number of States, entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement, and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

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towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, in order to improve their management regimes,

Welcoming also the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, and recognizing in particular the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Code) and other related instruments, including the international plans of action, which set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries, as well as the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,

Welcoming further the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the thirty-third session of the Committee on Fisheries, held in Rome from 9 to 12 July 2018,[3]

Recognizing the importance of data collection through accurate and reliable reporting and monitoring of catches, including by-catch and discards, as a fundamental element of effective fisheries management that provides a basis for scientific stock assessment, and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management,

Noting with concern that effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable and incomplete information and data caused by, inter alia, unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data contributes to overfishing in some areas, and in this regard recalling that members of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements must fully comply with their associated data collection and reporting obligations, including to ensure that required data submissions are complete, reliable and submitted in a timely manner,

Recognizing the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (first World Ocean Assessment), which provides information on the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, in relation to, inter alia, fisheries,

Recognizing also the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security and nutrition, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

Welcoming in this regard the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

Noting the voluntary national reviews on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, particularly on Goal 14,

Recalling its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action" adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable

[3] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/23.

Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, and in this regard affirming the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,

Recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

Welcoming in this regard the continuous attention given by the international community to the role of fish and fish products in nutrition and food security, including by the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, especially noting the importance of the availability of highly nutritious food for low-income populations,

Recalling the decision in its resolution 71/124 of 7 December 2016 to designate 2 May as World Tuna Day,

Recalling also the decision in its resolution 72/72 to proclaim 5 June the International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, to draw attention to the threats posed by illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities to the sustainable use of fisheries resources as well as to ongoing efforts to fight these activities,

Recalling further the decision in its resolution 72/72 to proclaim the year beginning on 1 January 2022 the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture,

Recalling that, in "The future we want", States were encouraged to give due consideration to implementing the Committee on World Food Security Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,

Noting that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed the Global Work Programme to Advance Knowledge on Rights-based Approaches for Fisheries, as a means to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and to facilitate the formalization of appropriate access and resource rights in small-scale and artisanal fisheries in both developing and developed countries, in order to improve governance of fisheries,

Recalling the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication,

Recognizing the urgent need for action at all levels, relying on the best available scientific information to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches,

Expressing concern over the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries, and noting in that regard the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling the entry into force of the Paris Agreement,[4] and noting that it aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, including by increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience,

Reaffirming its commitment to ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements are based on the best available scientific information,

Taking note of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2018*, which states that 33.1 per cent of assessed marine fish stocks are estimated to be fished at a biologically unsustainable level and therefore overfished as of 2015, and taking note of the report of the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, in which serious concern about the state of the world's fish stocks was expressed, noting the continued increase in the proportion of overfished stocks, and which also recognized that the situation was very different in different areas of the world,[3]

Expressing its support for accelerating work to complete the ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing,

Noting the ministerial decision on fisheries subsidies, adopted at the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Buenos Aires from 10 to 13 December 2017,

Concerned that only a limited number of States have taken measures to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Particularly concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing continues to constitute a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

Concerned that some operators increasingly take advantage of the globalization of fishery markets to trade fishery products stemming from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and make economic profits from those operations, which constitutes an incentive for them to pursue their activities,

Recognizing that effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications for all States, in particular developing States,

Recognizing also that fishing by vessels without nationality on the high seas undermines relevant objectives of the Convention and the Agreement to conserve and sustainably manage marine resources, and noting with concern that fishing vessels without nationality operate on the high seas without governance and oversight,

Recognizing further the role of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels in the concerted fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

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[4] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Recognizing the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (the Compliance Agreement),[5] the Agreement and the Code for flag States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea on the request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Subregional Fisheries Commission, issued on 2 April 2015,

Recognizing the importance of adequately regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment at sea to contribute to combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities,

Noting the obligation of all States, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and national levels in the areas, inter alia, of marine scientific research, data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of living marine resources,

Acknowledging the importance of ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction to sustainable development, promoting safety at sea and limiting human vulnerability to natural disasters, due to their use in weather and marine forecasts, fisheries management, tsunami forecasts and climate prediction, and expressing concern that most damage to ocean data buoys, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, frequently results from actions taken by some fishing operations which render the buoys inoperable,

Welcoming in this regard the adoption of measures by States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to protect ocean data buoy systems from the impacts of fishing activities,

Encouraging States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to cooperate to ensure that interactions between fishing operations and ocean data buoys on the high seas are minimized,

Recognizing the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overfishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

Recalling the entry into force of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[6] in 2016,

Recognizing the efforts of States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement its resolution 46/215 of

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

[6] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2009/REP and Corr.1–3, appendix E.

20 December 1991, in which the General Assembly called for a global moratorium on all large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, including collaborative fisheries enforcement activities,

Concerned that marine pollution from all sources constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

Recognizing that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, owing to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to its prevention and removal are necessary, including identification of such sources and environmentally sound techniques for its removal,

Recognizing also that the majority of marine debris, including plastics and microplastics, entering the seas and oceans is considered to originate from land-based sources,

Recognizing further that abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, including ghost fishing gear, is an increasingly pervasive and destructive form of marine debris causing adverse impacts on fish stocks, marine life and the marine environment and that urgent preventative action is needed, such as marking of fishing gear as proposed by the Committee on Fisheries, as well as removal action,

Noting that the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea focused its discussions at its nineteenth meeting, held from 18 to 22 June 2018, on anthropogenic underwater noise,[7]

Acknowledging that anthropogenic underwater noise could have impacts on different marine species, which could also have consequent socioeconomic impacts, including on fishing, and welcoming in this regard the discussions on the issue at the nineteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process,

Noting the continuing gaps in knowledge and lack of data with respect to anthropogenic underwater noise, and welcoming, in this respect, the recent encouragement of the thirty-third session of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider conducting a review of the impact of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine resources and its socioeconomic consequences,

Reaffirming the importance of sustainable aquaculture to food security, recognizing that, as indicated in *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2018*, aquaculture is already making a significant contribution to the global seafood supply, and that a further increase in that contribution is anticipated,

Noting that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and nutrition and poverty alleviation and, together with the efforts of other aquaculture-producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

Noting in this regard the concern about the potential effects of genetically engineered aquatic fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks,

Recognizing the efforts made by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in regulating deep-sea fisheries, while still concerned that some deep-sea fishing activities in certain areas are being carried out without full implementation of relevant paragraphs of previous resolutions, representing a threat to vulnerable marine ecosystems,

[7] See A/73/124.

Calling attention to the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities whose livelihoods, economic development and food security are heavily dependent on sustainable fisheries and will suffer disproportionately if sustainable fisheries are negatively affected,

Calling attention also to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries- and aquaculture-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to exercise their rights in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources and fulfil their obligations under international instruments,

Noting the need to recognize and address the special role of women and the vulnerability of indigenous and local communities and minorities in small-scale fisheries,

Recognizing the need to adopt, implement and enforce appropriate measures to minimize waste, by-catch and discards, including high-grading, loss of fishing gear and other factors that adversely affect the sustainability of fish stocks and ecosystems and, consequently, can also have harmful effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities,

Recognizing also the need to adopt and implement appropriate measures, consistent with the best available scientific information, to minimize by-catch of non-targeted species and juveniles through the effective management of fishing methods, including the use and design of fish aggregating devices, in order to mitigate adverse effects on fish stocks and ecosystems,

Recognizing further the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean, and noting in this regard the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem,[8] the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the importance of this approach to relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code, as well as decision VII/11[9] and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Noting with appreciation the comprehensive review of the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture and adaptation options undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recognizing the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999, in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

[8] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[9] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

Welcoming in this regard the review by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and its ongoing work in this regard,

Noting with concern that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries and for the regulation of by-catch of sharks from other fisheries,

Welcoming science-based measures taken by States to conserve and sustainably manage sharks, and noting in this respect management measures taken by coastal States, including limits on catch or fishing effort, technical measures, including by-catch reduction measures, sanctuaries, closed seasons and areas and monitoring, control and surveillance,

Recalling the decisions on sharks and rays adopted at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 24 September to 5 October 2016, inter alia, the inclusion of additional species of sharks and rays in appendix II to that Convention,[10] and recalling also the ongoing work of the secretariat of that Convention, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on capacity-building in this regard,

Noting that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, at its twelfth session, held in Manila from 23 to 28 October 2017, added 5 new species of sharks and rays to those listed in the appendices to that Convention,[11] bringing the number to 34 species,

Noting with concern the continuing practice of the removal of fins from sharks, with the remainder of the carcass being discarded at sea,

Recognizing the importance of marine species occupying low trophic levels in the ecosystem and for food security, and the need to ensure their long-term sustainability,

Expressing concern over continued incidental mortality, in fishing operations, of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species, marine mammals and marine turtles, while recognizing considerable efforts by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to reduce incidental mortality as a result of by-catch,

Noting with concern the significant threat that invasive alien species, such as those carried and transferred by ballast water and by biofouling on ships, pose to marine ecosystems and resources,

I
Achieving sustainable fisheries

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,[1] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;[2]

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.
[11] Ibid., vol. 1651, No. 28395.

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in "The future we want",[12] States addressed the sustainable development of fisheries, recognized the significant contribution of fisheries to the three dimensions of sustainable development and stressed the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, and encourages States to implement the commitments made in "The future we want";

4. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

5. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the call for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development made in the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action";[13]

6. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[14] in relation to achieving sustainable fisheries, especially restoring depleted stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and, where possible, not later than 2015, and recalls that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to intensify their efforts to meet that target and to urgently take the measures necessary to maintain or restore all stocks at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, with the aim of achieving those goals in the shortest time feasible, as determined by their biological characteristics, and in order to achieve this, to urgently develop and implement science-based management plans, including by reducing or suspending fishing catch and fishing effort commensurate with the status of the stock, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

7. *Also encourages* States to promote the consumption of fish sourced from sustainably managed fisheries;

8. *Further encourages* States to consider sustainable aquaculture, consistent with the Code, as a means to promote diversification of the food supply and of income, while ensuring that aquaculture is conducted responsibly and adverse impacts on the environment are minimized;

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[12] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[13] Resolution 71/312, annex.

[14] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

9. *Emphasizes* the need for the full implementation of the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway";[15]

10. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on coral reefs and other ecosystems relevant to fisheries, and urges States, either directly or through appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations or arrangements, to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them, in particular the most affected ones;

11. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-third session, with regard to the vulnerability of fisheries and aquaculture communities to climate change and extreme events and, in particular, the impacts on small-scale fisheries and small island developing States, and urges States to consider appropriate action in this regard;[3]

12. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

13. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to assess the risks and potential adverse impacts of climate change with respect to fish stocks, consider them when establishing conservation and management measures and identifying options to reduce risks and adverse impacts with respect to fisheries management and the health and resilience of marine ecosystems and enhance efforts to cooperate to collect, exchange and publish scientific and technical data and best practices related to the development and implementation of adaptation strategies, and to assist developing States in this regard, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change;

14. *Encourages* States and relevant organizations and arrangements to assess and consider the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture sectors in their policies and planning, as appropriate, to identify effective adaptation strategies to reduce the vulnerability of these sectors to climate change;

15. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

16. *Urges* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts, including through international cooperation, to promote science for conservation and management measures that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the

[15] Resolution 69/15, annex.

United Nations as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

17. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply stock-specific target and limit precautionary reference points, which for target reference points are intended to meet management objectives, as described in annex II to the Agreement and in the Code, to ensure that populations of harvested stocks and, where necessary, associated or dependent species, are maintained at or restored to sustainable levels, and to use these reference points for triggering conservation and management action;

18. *Encourages* States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish and implement rebuilding and recovery strategies and plans where a stock is identified as being overfished, which should include time frames and probabilities of recovery aimed at bringing the stock back at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, and guided by scientific assessment and subjected to periodic evaluation of progress;

19. *Also encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution and overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

20. *Further encourages* States to enhance or develop observer programmes, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, in order to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, which could also assist monitoring, control and surveillance tools, and to take into account standards, forms of cooperation and other existing structures for such programmes as described in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

21. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually in line with their national legislation or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to take steps as appropriate to ensure the safety of observers;

22. *Encourages* States to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, accurate, complete, reliable and effective data collection and reporting of required data on catches, including by-catch and discards, reviewing and validating the data, and providing catch information in support of scientific stock assessment and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management;

23. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and, where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and, when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

24. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

25. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of its resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt and implement measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality and, where scientific information is uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries and urgently establishing science-based management measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks, and encourages the full utilization of dead sharks caught in the context of sustainably managed fisheries;

26. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and national measures that regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

27. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to regulate highly migratory species to strengthen or establish precautionary, science-based conservation and management measures, as appropriate, for sharks taken in fisheries within their convention areas consistent with the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks;

28. *Encourages* range States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to become signatories to and implement the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,[11] and invites non-range States, intergovernmental organizations and international and national non-governmental organizations or other relevant bodies and entities to consider becoming cooperating partners;

29. *Encourages* States, as appropriate, to cooperate in establishing non-detriment findings for shared stocks of marine species listed in appendices I and II to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[10] consistent with the concepts and non-binding guiding principles contained in resolution Conf. 16.7 on non-detriment findings, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

30. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

31. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to observing the need to ensure access to fisheries and the importance of access to markets by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolk and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples and their communities, particularly in developing countries, especially small island developing States;

32. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide capacity-development and technical support to small-scale fisheries, including by addressing socioeconomics, gender dimensions, and post-harvest and data collection challenges in the sector;

33. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for the participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources, and encourages States to consider promoting, as appropriate, participatory management schemes for small-scale fisheries in accordance with national laws, regulations and practices, as well as the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

34. *Welcomes* action taken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a number of regional organizations to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication through regional plans of action, dedicated working groups and other initiatives;

35. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to analyse, as appropriate, the impact of fishing for marine species corresponding to low trophic levels;

36. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the initiation of further studies by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the impact of industrial fishing activities on species corresponding to low trophic levels;

37. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to assess and consider the potential risk and effects of genetically engineered fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks and on the biodiversity of the aquatic environment and to provide guidance consistent with the Code, on managing risk and minimizing harmful impacts in this regard;

38. *Also invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with other relevant international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization, to promote awareness and cooperation to develop and strengthen capacity to prevent, minimize and mitigate the adverse impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity, including fish stocks;

39. *Calls upon* States to consider potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise from different activities in the marine environment and to address and mitigate such impacts, taking into account the best available scientific information, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, as appropriate;

II
Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

40. *Welcomes* the most recent ratification and accession to the Agreement, and calls upon all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

41. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to effectively implement, as a matter of priority, the provisions of the Agreement through their national legislation and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

42. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

43. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to inform, either directly or through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same subregion or region of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

44. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

45. *Invites* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to adopt procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that are consistent with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement, including, inter alia, those to ensure the safety of the crew and the inspectors;

46. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the measures necessary to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

47. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (b), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

48. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the special requirements of developing States, including small island developing States as highlighted in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate in the establishment of conservation and management measures for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the need to ensure, where appropriate, in accordance with article 24, paragraph 2 (c), of the Agreement, that such measures do not transfer a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, and notes in this regard ongoing efforts to better develop a common understanding of this concept;

49. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their

economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

50. *Urges* States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement;

51. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division) to continue their efforts to publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund;

52. *Encourages* accelerated progress by States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, regarding the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006,[16] and the identification of emerging priorities;

53. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the resumed Review Conference held in New York from 24 to 28 May 2010[17] and from 23 to 27 May 2016;[18]

54. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, emphasized, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[19] the need to ensure comparability and consistency of reporting indicators at global, regional and national levels, whilst minimizing the burden on its members;

55. *Recognizes* that the Review Conference is the competent intergovernmental forum for assessing the effectiveness of the Agreement by reviewing its implementation;

56. *Recalls* that the resumed Review Conference agreed to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not earlier than 2020, to be agreed at a future round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

57. *Acknowledges*, in particular, the commitments made at the resumed Review Conference held in 2016 to the continued implementation of the Agreement through the application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, the urgent improvement of the status of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, strengthened interaction of the science-policy interface and the strong emphasis on collaboration, at all levels, for improved global fisheries outcomes;

58. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001 and the recommendation of the resumed Review Conference in 2016 that the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement be dedicated, on an annual basis, to the consideration of specific issues arising from the implementation of the Agreement, with a view to improving understanding, sharing experiences and identifying best practices for the consideration of States parties, as well as the General Assembly and the Review Conference;

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[16] See A/CONF.210/2006/15, annex.
[17] See A/CONF.210/2010/7, annex.
[18] See A/CONF.210/2016/5, annex.
[19] Resolution 70/1.

59. *Takes note* of the report of the thirteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, focusing on the topic "Science-policy interface";[20]

60. *Reiterates its request*, in paragraph 55 of resolution 72/72, that the Secretary-General convene the fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties for two days in May 2019 to focus on the topic "Performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements";

61. *Encourages* greater participation, including by competent international organizations, at the forthcoming fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

62. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite States parties to the Agreement and, as observers, States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement not parties to the Agreement, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations, bodies, funds and programmes within the United Nations system, the secretariats of relevant organizations and conventions and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, in particular subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and related regional intergovernmental marine science organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations, in accordance with past practice, to attend the fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, while relevant scientific institutions may request an invitation to participate in the consultations as observers;

63. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States parties to the Agreement, as well as States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement not parties to the Agreement and others invited to participate in the consultations as observers pursuant to paragraph 62 of the present resolution, to submit their views on the topic "Performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements", together with a translation into English, to the Division, and requests the Division to post such views, unedited and in the languages in which they are received, on its website, in accordance with past practice;

64. *Invites* the chairperson of the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement to circulate widely, through the Secretariat, an informal summary of the discussions at the fourteenth round;

65. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing in the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

66. *Also reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

III
Related fisheries instruments

67. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement,[5] and urges continued efforts in this regard;

[20] Available from the web page of the Agreement maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

68. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

69. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

70. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

71. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to maintain their commitment in reporting on their implementation of the Code, reiterates the importance of responding to the web-based questionnaire of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for monitoring the implementation of the Code and the international plans of action and strategies, and notes that the information collected could also be relevant to the implementation of related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

72. *Notes* the publication by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of Technical Guidelines for Fishing Operations: best practices to improve safety at sea in the fisheries sector;

73. *Encourages* States to consider signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

IV
Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

74. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to fish stocks and marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all steps necessary to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

75. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States acknowledged that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing deprive many countries of a crucial natural resource and remain a persistent threat to their sustainable development and recommitted to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as advanced in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and to prevent and combat those practices, including by developing and implementing national and regional action plans in accordance with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, implementing, in accordance with international law, effective and coordinated measures by coastal States, flag States, port States, chartering nations and the States of nationality of the beneficial owners and others who support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by identifying vessels engaged in such fishing and by depriving offenders of the benefits accruing from it, as well as by cooperating with developing countries to systematically identify needs and build capacity, including support for monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement systems;

76. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of an increasing number of national plans of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and

unregulated fishing, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider developing such plans;

77. *Urges* flag States to strengthen effective jurisdiction and control over vessels flying their flag, and to exercise due diligence, including by developing or amending national rules and regulations, where needed, in order to ensure that such vessels do not engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, while reaffirming the importance, under international law, including as reflected in the Convention, of the responsibilities of flag States regarding fishing vessels flying their flag, including with respect to safety at sea and labour conditions on fishing vessels;

78. *Urges* States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

79. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to establish penalties for non-compliance by vessels involved in fishing or fishing-related activities and their nationals, as appropriate, in accordance with applicable national law and consistent with international law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits from their illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities;

80. *Urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

81. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

82. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

83. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities;

84. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

85. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

86. *Reaffirms* paragraph 53 of its resolution 64/72 of 4 December 2009 with regard to eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" and requiring that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and urges States operating open registry to effectively control all fishing vessels flying their flag, as required by international law, or otherwise stop open registry for fishing vessels;

87. *Notes* the challenges posed by vessels determined under international law to be without nationality that are fishing on the high seas and that such vessels are engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities as defined under the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and encourages States to take necessary measures where appropriate, consistent with international law, including enacting domestic legislation, in order to prevent and deter vessels without nationality from engaging in or supporting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

88. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to consider adopting rules, consistent with international law, to ensure that chartering arrangements and practices related to fishing vessels enable compliance with and enforcement of relevant conservation and management measures, so as not to undermine efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

89. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, and to further promote the development and application of standards at the regional level;

90. *Welcomes* the recent ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,[6] and encourages States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to that Agreement;

91. *Takes note* of the convening of the working groups under the Agreement on Port State Measures to develop operational resources and build capacity to support implementation of that Agreement, and also takes note of the work to develop the information exchange portal at the first meeting of the open-ended technical working group on information exchange under that Agreement, from 16 to 18 April 2018;

92. *Notes* the capacity development programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aimed at facilitating and supporting the implementation of the Agreement on Port State Measures and related instruments, which contributes to the development of national capacity of both parties and non-parties, including the strengthening of the institutional, operational and

enforcement capacity of developing States with a view to maximizing the benefits of its implementation;

93. *Also notes*, in this regard, the regional workshops convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on implementing the Agreement on Port State Measures;

94. *Recognizes* the ongoing collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, as well as the International Labour Organization, through the Joint FAO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters with regard to, inter alia, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, maritime safety and decent labour conditions in the fisheries sector, as reflected in the report of the third session of the Ad Hoc Working Group, held from 16 to 18 November 2015;

95. *Encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

96. *Takes note* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, expressed support for the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in continuing to develop technical guidelines for the estimation of the magnitude and geographic extent of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, noting the value of these guidelines for the production of consistent and reliable estimates, determining national, regional, global trends, and measuring the impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

97. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in trans-shipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, through adequate regulation, monitoring and control of trans-shipment of fish at sea, including through additional national measures applicable to vessels flying their flag to prevent such trans-shipment;

98. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

99. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its fortieth session of the Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes,[21] encourages work to increase awareness of the Guidelines, and encourages States and relevant stakeholders to implement the Guidelines when developing catch documentation schemes and to use them as a reference in related activities, with special attention to the prevention, deterrence and elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

100. *Encourages* information-sharing regarding emerging market- and trade-related measures by States and other relevant actors with appropriate international forums, given the potential implications of these measures for all States, consistent with the established plan of work of the Committee on Fisheries, and taking into

[21] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C/2017/REP, appendix C.

account the Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fish Trade of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

101. *Acknowledges* the development of participatory surveillance activities at sea involving fishing communities in West Africa as a cost-effective way of detecting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

102. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries at the proliferation of private standards and ecolabelling schemes potentially leading to the creation of trade barriers and restrictions, and also notes the work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes through the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries;

103. *Also notes* the concerns about possible connections between transnational organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, and in this regard takes note of the study issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on transnational organized crime in the fishing industry, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and transnational organized crime;

V
Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement

104. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international law, to strengthen implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate, in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

105. *Welcomes* the fact that the Committee on Fisheries has urged its members to start implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance[22] as soon as possible, and urges all flag States to implement those Guidelines as soon as possible, including, as a first step, by carrying out a voluntary assessment;

106. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

107. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, recalling that in paragraph 62 of resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008 it urged that large-scale fishing vessels be required to carry vessel monitoring systems no later than December 2008, and to share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

[22] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2014/4.2/Rev.1, appendix II.

108. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to promote compliance with conservation and management measures and to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

109. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with States, regional economic integration organizations, the International Maritime Organization and, as appropriate, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to expedite efforts to develop and manage a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels and supply vessels, including with a unique vessel identifier system, using, as a first step, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme for fishing vessels of 100 gross tonnage and above, adopted by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization in its resolution A.1078 (28) of 4 December 2013;

110. *Welcomes* the continued development of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, including its efforts to keep it cost-effective, including the launch on 9 July 2018 of the public version of the Global Record, and encourages States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide the necessary data and regular updates to the Global Record;

111. *Also welcomes* the decision by the International Maritime Organization, in resolution A.1117 (30) of 6 December 2017, to extend, beyond the first phase of the Global Record, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme to fishing vessels of steel and non-steel hull construction and to all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 metres in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State, and welcomes the fact that several regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have made provisions for the International Maritime Organization number to be compulsory in their convention areas for all eligible vessels, and encourages those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to do the same;

112. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

113. *Requests* States to take the necessary measures, consistent with international law, to help to prevent fish and fishery products caught in a manner that undermines applicable conservation and management measures adopted in accordance with international law from entering international trade;

114. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

115. *Urges* States, directly and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures for trans-shipment, as appropriate, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, to collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, in accordance with international law and, in parallel, to encourage and support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in studying the current practices of trans-shipment and produce a set of guidelines for this purpose;

116. *Takes note*, in this regard, that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, welcomed the Global Study on Trans-shipment by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and called for in-depth studies to support the development of guidelines on best practices for regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment;

117. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

VI
Fishing overcapacity

118. *Calls upon* States to commit themselves to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

119. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop and implement a range of measures to adjust fishing intensity, including fishing capacity where relevant, to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, and including capacity assessment and capacity management plans providing incentives for voluntary reduction, which take into account all aspects that contribute to fishing capacity, considering, inter alia, engine power, fishing gear technology, fish detection technology and storage space, and also to improve transparency on fishing capacity, including by identifying, sharing and publicizing relevant information in this regard, subject to confidentiality requirements;

120. *Reiterates its call upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions

required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that its implementation is facilitated without delay;

121. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

122. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to regulate highly migratory species, urgently to address global fishing capacity for tunas, inter alia, in a way that recognizes the legitimate rights of developing States, in particular small island developing States, to participate in and benefit from such fisheries, taking into account the recommendations of the 2010 Joint Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations International Workshop on RFMO Management of Tuna Fisheries, held in Brisbane, Australia, and the recommendations of the 2011 third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

123. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, taking into account the best scientific information available as well as ecosystem approaches and the precautionary approach, to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks and to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

124. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States reaffirmed their commitment in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overcapacity, taking into account the importance of that sector to developing countries, reiterated their commitment to conclude multilateral disciplines on fisheries subsidies that would give effect to the mandates of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda[23] and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation, taking into account the importance of the sector to development priorities, poverty reduction and livelihood and food security concerns, and encouraged one another to further improve the transparency and reporting of existing fisheries subsidies programmes through the World Trade Organization and, given the state of fisheries resources, and without prejudicing the Doha and Hong Kong ministerial mandates on fisheries subsidies or the need to conclude those negotiations, to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing and to refrain from introducing new such subsidies or from extending or enhancing existing ones;

125. *Urges* States to eliminate fisheries subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity and to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through accelerating work to complete negotiations on fisheries subsidies at the World Trade Organization, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization negotiations on fisheries subsidies;

[23] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

VII
Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

126. *Expresses concern* that, despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/215, the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing still exists and remains a threat to living marine resources;

127. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the provisions of resolution 46/215 and subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets in all seas and oceans, which means that efforts to implement resolution 46/215 should not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution;

128. *Also urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the present global moratorium on the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets on the high seas, and calls upon States to ensure that vessels flying their flag that are duly authorized to use large-scale drift nets in waters under their national jurisdiction do not use such gear for fishing while on the high seas;

VIII
Fisheries by-catch and discards

129. *Urges* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action, including with consideration of the interests of developing coastal States and, as appropriate, subsistence fishing communities, to minimize by-catch, as well as to reduce or eliminate catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including of juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will minimize by-catch of juvenile fish, and to ensure that these measures are implemented so as to optimize their effectiveness;

130. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of the measures they have taken with regard to by-catch and discards;

131. *Welcomes* the commitment of States in "The future we want" to enhance action to manage by-catch, discards and other adverse ecosystem impacts from fisheries, including by eliminating destructive fishing practices, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

132. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, taking into account the best available

scientific information on fishing methods, including fish aggregating devices, to minimize by-catch;

133. *Also calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and other devices, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental by-catch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles, and notes in this regard the measures adopted by different regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

134. *Notes*, in this regard, that some regional fisheries management organizations, including the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, have established their own working groups to assess the use and impact of large-scale fish aggregating devices;

135. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to promote, as appropriate, the use of environmentally friendly fish aggregating devices while ensuring compliance with measures that they have taken relating to such devices;

136. *Urgently calls upon* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and, where appropriate, other relevant international organizations to develop and implement effective management measures to reduce the incidence of catch and discards of non-target species, including the utilization of selective fishing gear, where appropriate, and to take appropriate measures to minimize waste, and welcomes in this regard the support of the Committee on Fisheries for the development of a technical guideline of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations addressing the causes of and remedies to food losses and waste;

137. *Calls upon* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to adopt or improve measures to assess the impact of their fisheries on species caught as by-catch and to improve the comprehensiveness and accuracy of information and reporting on incidental catch of species caught as by-catch, including through adequate observer coverage and the use of modern technologies, such as electronic monitoring, and to provide assistance to developing States to meet data-collection and reporting obligations;

138. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to strengthen or establish data-collection programmes to obtain reliable species-specific estimates of shark, marine turtle, fin-fish, marine mammal and seabird by-catch, and to promote further research on selective fishing gear and practices and on the use of appropriate by-catch mitigation measures;

139. *Encourages* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to coordinate in the development and implementation of clear and standardized by-catch data-collection and reporting protocols for non-target species, in particular endangered, threatened and protected species, taking into account best-practice advice from appropriate international organizations and arrangements,

including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels;[24]

140. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in subregional and regional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

141. *Encourages* States to strengthen, if necessary, the capacity of those subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate to ensure the adequate conservation of non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations, taking into consideration best practices for non-target species management, and to expedite their ongoing efforts in this regard;

142. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements urgently to implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the 2004 Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by minimizing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and establishing and strengthening data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

143. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement the International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;[25]

144. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to continue to take urgent action to reduce the by-catch of seabirds, including albatrosses and petrels, in fisheries by adopting and implementing conservation measures consistent with the 2009 best practices technical guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to support implementation of the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries and taking into account the work of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels and of organizations, such as the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources;

145. *Takes note* of the report of the Expert Workshop on Means and Methods for Reducing Marine Mammal Mortality in Fishing and Aquaculture Operations, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 20 to 23 March 2018;

IX
Subregional and regional cooperation

146. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

[24] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2258, No. 40228.

[25] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document FIRO/R957 (En), appendix E.

147. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

148. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code, provided they have shown their interest in and capacity to comply with the measures adopted by the regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements concerned, including their willingness to effectively exercise flag State control, while recognizing the need to enhance the capacity of developing States in this regard;

149. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

150. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the progress in the preparation of a draft convention on future multilateral cooperation in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden;

151. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the conclusion of the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean, and the signing ceremony in Ilulissat, Greenland, on 3 October 2018;

152. *Urges* signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean[26] for fishery resources covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

153. *Encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;[27]

154. *Also encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean;[28]

155. *Further encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to and acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, and notes the ongoing efforts by the North Pacific Fisheries Commission to develop and implement conservation and management measures and to strengthen cooperation to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing within the area of that Convention;

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[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39489.

[27] Ibid., vol. 2835, No. 49647.

[28] Ibid., vol. 2899, No. 50553.

156. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, as amended, by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session, held in Rome from 19 to 24 May 2014, and urges those Contracting Parties to the Commission that need to accept the amended Agreement to do so with a view to its early entry into force;

157. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

158. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica;

159. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 18 May 2017 of the 2007 Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries;[29]

160. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, and to implement modern approaches to fisheries management, as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, including the conservation and management of ecologically related and dependent species and protection of their habitats, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of living marine resources, and welcomes those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have taken steps in this direction;

161. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks that have not yet adopted effective conservation and management measures in line with the best scientific information available to conserve and manage stocks falling under their mandate to do so urgently;

162. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations, and to strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation by such regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

163. *Urges* the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to manage highly migratory species to continue to take measures to implement the Course of Actions adopted at the second joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to consider the recommendations of the third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

[29] Ibid., vol. 1135, No. 17799.

164. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage straddling fish stocks to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

165. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage deep-sea fisheries to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

166. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent and facilitate the adoption of conservation and management measures in a timely and effective manner, including considering provisions for effective voting and objection procedures where appropriate, to rely on the best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, and address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery;

167. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have completed performance reviews, and encourages the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations of their respective reviews as a matter of priority;

168. *Urges* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate;

169. *Calls upon* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to undertake performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on a regular basis, and to make the results publicly available, to implement the recommendations of such reviews and to strengthen the comprehensiveness of those reviews over time, as necessary;

170. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the need for transparency and accountability in fisheries management by regional fisheries management organizations and the efforts already made by those regional fisheries management organizations that had undertaken independent performance reviews, called upon all regional fisheries management organizations to regularly undertake such reviews and make the results publicly available, encouraged implementation of the recommendations of such reviews and recommended that the comprehensiveness of those reviews be strengthened over time, as necessary;

171. *Urges* States to cooperate, taking into account those performance reviews, to develop best-practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations

and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

172. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to recognize the importance and role of small-scale, artisanal and subsistence fisheries and to support their long-term environmental, economic and social sustainability;

173. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

174. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring transparency of reporting of fishing activities within regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to facilitate efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as well as the importance of respecting the reporting obligations within those organizations and arrangements, notes in this regard the measures adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas[30] and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission,[31] and encourages other regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider establishing similar measures;

X
Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem

175. *Encourages* States, individually and through relevant international bodies, to improve the understanding of the causes and impacts of forced labour and human trafficking in the fishing and aquaculture industries, including processing and related industries, and to further consider actions to combat these practices, including raising awareness of the issue;

176. *Acknowledges* the entry into force of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) on 16 November 2017, and of the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) on 9 November 2016, as relevant instruments that ensure decent working conditions in fisheries and other maritime sectors, and notes in this regard the tripartite meeting on issues relating to migrant fishers, held in Geneva from 18 to 22 September 2017 under the auspices of the International Labour Organization;

177. *Calls upon* flag States to effectively implement their duty under the Convention with respect to labour conditions, taking into account applicable international instruments and national laws, and in this regard encourages States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), and to implement the Guidelines for port State control officers carrying out inspections under the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Guidelines on flag State inspection of working and living conditions on board fishing vessels;

178. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to enhance their efforts to apply an ecosystem

[30] International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, recommendation 11-16.

[31] Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, resolutions 12/07 and 13/07.

approach to fisheries, taking into account paragraph 30 (d) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

179. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

180. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, working in cooperation with other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to adopt, as appropriate, measures to protect ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction from actions that impair their operation;

181. *Encourages* States to increase scientific research on marine ecosystems in accordance with international law;

182. *Recognizes* that the science-policy interface is vital to the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the Agreement by providing the best available scientific information for the conservation and management of living marine resources;

183. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to strengthen the science-policy interface in order to further improve the application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and to address uncertainties and changes such as those related to the impacts of climate change in support of the development of adaptive fisheries management strategies;

184. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socioeconomics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the 2007 Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as a framework for the improvement and understanding of aquaculture status and trends;

185. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to continue to implement the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Guidelines) in order to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from fishing practices with significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep-sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain as documented in the first World Ocean Assessment;

186. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in "The future we want", States committed to enhance actions to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from significant adverse impacts, including through the effective use of impact assessments, consistent with

international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

187. *Reaffirms* the importance of paragraphs 80 to 90 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 to 127 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121 to 136 of resolution 66/68 of 6 December 2011 and paragraphs 156, 171 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123 of 7 December 2016 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the actions called for in those resolutions, and emphasizes the need for full implementation by all States and relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements of their commitments under those paragraphs on an urgent basis;

188. *Urges* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that their actions in sustainably managing deep-sea fisheries and implementing paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123 are consistent with the Guidelines;

189. *Recalls* that nothing in the paragraphs of resolutions 61/105, 64/72, 66/68 and 71/123 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems prejudices the sovereign rights of coastal States over their continental shelf or the exercise of the jurisdiction of coastal States with respect to their continental shelf under international law as reflected in the Convention, in particular article 77 thereof;

190. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption by coastal States of conservation measures regarding their continental shelf to address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, as well as their efforts to ensure compliance with those measures;

191. *Reiterates* the importance of marine scientific research for the sustainable management of deep-sea fishery resources, including target fish stocks and non-target species, and to protect marine ecosystems, including the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

192. *Welcomes* the important progress made by States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and those States participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to implement paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, but notes with concern the uneven implementation of those provisions and that, in particular, bottom fishing continues to occur in certain areas beyond national jurisdiction without an impact assessment having been completed in the 10 years since the adoption of resolution 61/105, in which the General Assembly called for such assessments to be undertaken by 31 December 2008;

193. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to take, in particular, the following urgent actions regarding bottom fishing in areas beyond national jurisdiction:

(a) To use, as applicable, the full set of criteria in the Guidelines to identify where vulnerable marine ecosystems occur or are likely to occur as well as for assessing significant adverse impacts;

(b) To ensure that impact assessments, including for cumulative impacts of activities covered by the assessment, are conducted consistent with the Guidelines, particularly paragraph 47 thereof, are reviewed periodically and are revised thereafter whenever a substantial change in the fishery has occurred or there is relevant new information, and that, where such impact assessments have not been undertaken, they are carried out as a priority before authorizing bottom fishing activities;

(c) To ensure that conservation and management measures adopted by States and regional fisheries organizations and arrangements are based on and updated on the basis of the best available scientific information, noting in particular the need to improve effective implementation of thresholds and move-on rules;

194. *Recognizes* that different types of marine scientific research, such as, inter alia, seabed mapping, mapping of vulnerable marine ecosystems based on information from the fishing fleet, on-site camera observations from remote vehicles, benthic ecosystem modelling, comparative benthic studies and predictive modelling have resulted in identification of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known or are likely to occur and in the adoption of conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on such ecosystems, including the closure of areas to bottom fishing in accordance with paragraph 119 (b) of resolution 64/72;

195. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage bottom fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements, to consider the results available from different types of marine scientific research, including, as appropriate, those listed in paragraph 194 above, concerning the identification of areas containing vulnerable marine ecosystems, and to adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts from bottom fishing on such ecosystems, consistent with the Guidelines, or to close such areas to bottom fishing until such conservation and management measures are adopted, as well as to continue to undertake further marine scientific research, for the above-mentioned purposes, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

196. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to carry out further marine scientific research to address the remaining knowledge gaps, in particular with regard to fish stock assessments, and to base and update conservation and management measures on the best available scientific information, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

197. *Notes with concern* that vulnerable marine ecosystems may also be impacted by human activities other than bottom fishing, and encourages in this regard States and competent international organizations to consider taking action to address such impacts;

198. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the potential impacts of climate change and ocean acidification in taking measures to manage deep-sea fisheries and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems;

199. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, to adopt conservation and management measures, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, on the basis of the best available scientific information, including stock assessments, to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish

stocks and non-target species and the rebuilding of depleted stocks, consistent with the Guidelines and, where scientific information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate, to ensure that conservation and management measures are established consistent with the precautionary approach, in particular with regard to vulnerable, threatened or endangered species;

200. *Recognizes*, in particular, the special circumstances and requirements of developing States and the specific challenges they may face in giving full effect to certain technical aspects of the Guidelines, and that implementation by such States of paragraphs 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraph 119 of resolution 64/72, paragraph 129 of resolution 66/68 and paragraph 180 of resolution 71/123 and the Guidelines should proceed in a manner that gives full consideration to section 6 of the Guidelines on the special requirements of developing countries;

201. *Recognizes* the need to enhance the capacity of developing States, including with regard to stock assessments, impact assessments, scientific and technical knowledge and training, and encourages States to provide technical and financial support to developing countries to address their special requirements and challenges in implementing the Guidelines;

202. *Welcomes* the substantial ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to the management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the publication of the technical paper entitled "Vulnerable marine ecosystems: processes and practices in the high seas", affirms the importance of the work undertaken pursuant to paragraphs 135 and 136 of resolution 66/68, and notes in particular the support provided by that Organization to States in implementing the Guidelines;

203. *Recalls* the decision to conduct in 2020 a further review of the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the measures therein and to make further recommendations, where necessary, and decides to precede that review with a two-day workshop;

204. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, with full conference services, without prejudice to future arrangements, a two-day workshop in 2020 in order to discuss implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, and to invite States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, other fisheries bodies, other relevant intergovernmental bodies and relevant non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders, in accordance with United Nations practice, to attend the workshop;

205. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report similar in scope, length and detail to his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session,[32] in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and with the assistance of an expert consultant to be hired by the Division to provide information and analysis on relevant technical and scientific issues to be covered in the report, for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, on the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156,

[32] A/71/351.

171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, and invites States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider making such information publicly available;

206. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives, establishment and effective management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard welcomes the development by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of technical guidelines on marine protected areas and fisheries, also encourages their application, and urges involvement, coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

207. *Also encourages* efforts to establish guidance on the objectives, establishment and management of other effective area-based conservation measures for fisheries purposes, and encourages coordination and cooperation for this purpose among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

208. *Urges* all States to implement the 1995 Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[33] and to accelerate activity to safeguard marine ecosystems, including fish stocks, against sources of land-based pollution, including plastics and excess nutrients, and physical degradation, taking into account the increase in oceanic dead zones;

209. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, and disseminate information in that regard, taking into account the best available scientific information, on fishing methods, gear types and uses to minimize mortality and other harms caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear;

210. *Acknowledges* the serious environmental, as well as economic and social, impacts on the marine environment caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, and encourages States, and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to take action to reduce such gear, noting the recommendations of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

211. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution 60/31 of 29 November 2005 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

212. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the endorsement by the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear, and also notes that the Committee welcomed the recommendations of the Technical Consultation on the Marking of Fishing Gear and supported the development of a comprehensive global strategy to tackle issues relating to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear and to support the implementation of the Guidelines;

213. *Recalls* Annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, which states, inter alia, that the accidental loss or discharge of fishing gear which poses a significant threat to the marine environment or navigation, shall be reported to the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly, and, where the loss or discharge

[33] A/51/116, annex II.

occurs within waters subject to the jurisdiction of a coastal State, also to that coastal State;[34]

214. *Encourages* further studies, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on the impacts of underwater noise on fish stocks and fishing catch rates, as well as associated socioeconomic effects;

215. *Calls upon* States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to play an active role in global efforts to conserve and sustainably use living marine resources, so as to contribute to marine biological diversity;

216. *Encourages* States, either individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to identify any spawning and nursery areas for fish stocks under their jurisdiction or competence and, where required, to adopt science-based measures to conserve such stocks during these critical life stages;

217. *Expresses concern* about the continuing influx of sargassum seaweed into the waters of the Caribbean and its impact on aquatic resources, fisheries, shorelines, waterways and tourism and the general well-being of coastal communities, and encourages States and relevant regional organizations to coordinate efforts to better understand the causes and impacts of the influx, and to eliminate extraordinary amounts of sargassum washed up along the coastline using environmentally sound techniques, as well as to work on joint solutions to maintain and protect the livelihoods of fishers and fishing communities and find ways of beneficially utilizing the seaweed and environmentally friendly ways of disposing of sargassum washed up on shore;

218. *Recognizes* the wide range of impacts of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems, and calls upon States to tackle the causes of ocean acidification and to further study its impacts;

219. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing adaptive marine resource management strategies and enhancing capacity-building to implement such strategies in order to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems to minimize the wide range of impacts on marine organisms and threats to food security caused by ocean acidification, in particular the impacts on the ability of calciferous plankton, coral reefs, shellfish and crustaceans to build shells and skeletal structures and the threats this could pose to protein supply;

XI
Capacity-building

220. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant subregional and regional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code and its associated international plans of action, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

221. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on, and assisting in the implementation of, the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment

[34] International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.201(62).

for sustainable small-scale fisheries, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

222. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology;

223. *Also recalls* that, in "The future we want", States urged the identification and mainstreaming by 2014 of strategies that further assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries, including through improved market access for fish products from developing countries;

224. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability, in recognition of the fact that food security and livelihoods may depend on fisheries;

225. *Encourages* States to cooperate closely, directly or through the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with a view to enhancing capacity-building of developing States, including coastal States, in particular small island developing States, in the field of fisheries and aquaculture through education and training;

226. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the work of the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme in Iceland and its contribution to training for developing States, in particular small island developing States, and emphasizes the need for the continuation and strengthening of this training for developing States;

227. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

228. *Welcomes* the progress made at the first meeting of the parties to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing towards the future establishment of an assistance fund under article 21 of that Agreement to be administered by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the purpose of assisting developing States parties, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, in the implementation of that Agreement and the acknowledgement by the ad hoc working group established by the parties to that

Agreement that access to the assistance fund by developing States parties should be transparent, equitable, simple and well coordinated;

229. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis and to take into account their legitimate expectation to fully benefit from the sustainable use of the natural resources of their exclusive economic zones, to ensure that vessels flying their flag comply with the laws and regulations of the developing coastal States adopted in accordance with international law and to give greater attention to fish processing and fish-processing facilities within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources and also to the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

230. *Encourages*, in this regard, greater transparency regarding fisheries access agreements, including by making them publicly available, subject to confidentiality requirements;

231. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

232. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratifications of or accessions to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

233. *Notes with appreciation* the compilation, prepared by the Secretariat and available on the website of the Division, of the needs of developing States for capacity-building and assistance in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the sources of available assistance for developing States to address such needs;

234. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175 and 177 to 188 of resolution 71/123;

235. *Urges* States and regional economic integration organizations, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to mainstream efforts to assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, with other relevant international development strategies with a view to enhancing international coordination to enable

them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, consistent with the duty to ensure the conservation and management of those resources, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fully mobilize and coordinate the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including at the level of the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates;

236. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations to develop strategies to further assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, in fully realizing the benefits from the catch of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and in strengthening regional efforts to sustainably conserve and manage such stocks, and, in this regard, to make available such information;

XII

Cooperation within the United Nations system

237. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

238. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action;

XIII

Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

239. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

240. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him by the Convention, the Agreement and the related resolutions of the General Assembly and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XIV

Seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly

241. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations;

242. *Notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and the effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on sustainable fisheries, decides that the informal consultations on this resolution will be held in a single round of consultations in November for a period of six days, requests the Secretary-General to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and invites States to submit proposals for inclusion in the text of the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than five weeks before the start of the consultations;

243. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of

10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", and to consider the possibility of including this sub-item in future provisional agendas on a biennial basis.

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Seventy-third session
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Oceans and the law of the sea: sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

Australia, Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Tonga and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Guinea, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kiribati, Latvia, Maldives, Montenegro, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine

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General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 38
The situation in the Middle East

United States of America: draft resolution

Activities of Hamas and other militant groups in Gaza

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming support for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israelis and Palestinians, in accordance with international law, and bearing in mind relevant United Nations resolutions,

Recognizing that all acts of violence against civilians, particularly acts of terror, as well as all acts of provocation, incitement and destruction only serve to erode trust and hinder efforts to bring about a peaceful solution,

1. *Condemns* Hamas for repeatedly firing rockets into Israel and for inciting violence, thereby putting civilians at risk;

2. *Demands* that Hamas and other militant actors, including Palestinian Islamic Jihad, cease all provocative actions and violent activity, including by using airborne incendiary devices;

3. *Condemns* the use of resources by Hamas in Gaza to construct military infrastructure, including tunnels to infiltrate Israel and equipment to launch rockets into civilian areas, when such resources could be used to address the critical needs of the civilian population;

4. *Calls for* full respect by all parties for international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including in regard to the protection of the civilian population;

5. *Also calls for* the cessation of all forms of violence and intimidation directed against medical and humanitarian personnel, and reiterates the importance of respecting the inviolability and neutrality of United Nations premises;

6. *Encourages* tangible steps towards intra-Palestinian reconciliation, including in support of the mediation efforts of Egypt, and concrete steps to reunite the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority and ensure its effective functioning in the Gaza Strip;

7. *Welcomes* and *urges* further engagement by the Secretary-General and the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process to assist, in cooperation with concerned partners, in the efforts to de-escalate the situation and address urgent infrastructure, humanitarian and economic development needs.

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 15
Culture of Peace

Bangladesh, Honduras, Nepal, Qatar and Russian Federation: draft resolution

Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action[2] on a Culture of Peace, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 September 1999, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of 20 October 2005, 61/45 of 4 December 2006, 62/89 of 17 December 2007, 63/113 of 5 December 2008, 64/80 of 7 December 2009, 65/11 of 23 November 2010, 66/116 of 12 December 2011, 67/106 of 17 December 2012, 68/125 of 18 December 2013, 69/139 of 15 December 2014, 70/20 of 3 December 2015, 71/252 of 23 December 2016 and 72/137 of 11 December 2017, adopted under its agenda item entitled "Culture of peace",

[1] Resolution 53/243 A.
[2] Resolution 53/243 B.

Please recycle

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Recalling its resolutions 70/262 on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture and 72/276 on the follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

Recalling also its resolutions 72/241 of 20 December 2017 on a world against violence and violent extremism, 72/284 of 26 June 2018 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review and 70/254 of 12 February 2016 on the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, and noting the establishment of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism under resolution 71/291 of 15 June 2017,

Taking note of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly,[4]

Welcoming the observance of 10 December as Human Rights Day,[5] 9 December as the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime[6] and 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence,[7] as proclaimed by the United Nations,

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for the prevention of conflicts, the peaceful settlement of disputes, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, mediation, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, social inclusion, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to a culture of peace,

Recognizing also that efforts towards peacebuilding and sustaining peace need to take into account the promotion of a culture of peace and vice versa,

Recognizing further the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, of choosing dialogue and negotiations over confrontation and of working together and not against each other,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[8] which provides an overview of the activities that have been carried out by the main United Nations entities working in the areas of a culture of peace as well as interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace since the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolutions 72/136 of 11 December 2017 and 72/137,

Recalling the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as International Mother Language Day, which aims at protecting, promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism, in order to foster and enrich a culture of peace, social harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

Recalling also the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 30 April as International Jazz Day, which aims to develop and increase intercultural exchanges and understanding between cultures for

[3] Resolution 55/2.
[4] Resolution 60/1.
[5] Resolution 423 (V).
[6] Resolution 69/323.
[7] Resolution 61/271.
[8] A/73/391.

the purpose of mutual comprehension, tolerance and the promotion of a culture of peace,

Welcoming the efforts of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations, in particular through various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Expressing its appreciation for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and the private sector,

Taking note of the meeting of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, held at United Nations Headquarters on 28 September 2018 at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and heads of international organizations, on the theme "Building bridges: using soft power to promote a culture of peace",

Taking note also of the eighth United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 and 20 November 2018 under the theme "#Commit2Dialogue: partnerships for prevention and sustaining peace",

Welcoming the successful holding on 5 September 2018 of the General Assembly High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace, convened by the President of the Assembly, at which Member States emphasized a wide-ranging partnership and inclusive collaboration among Member States, international organizations and civil society for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, and taking note with appreciation of the Chair's summary of the meeting on the theme "The culture of peace: a credible pathway to sustaining peace",

Welcoming also the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, known as the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, convened by the President of the Assembly on 24 September 2018, and the adoption of its political declaration,[9]

Recognizing the role of women and youth, as well as the contribution of children and older persons in advancing a culture of peace, and in particular the importance of greater involvement of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in activities promoting a culture of peace, including in post-conflict situations,

Noting the important and positive contribution of youth in efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, as well as for the promotion of peace and security,

Welcoming the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session of a programme of action for a culture of peace and non-violence, and noting that the objectives of that programme of action are in line with the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly,

Noting the initiatives of civil society, in collaboration with Governments, to strengthen civilian capacities to enhance the physical safety of vulnerable populations under threat of violence and to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes,

Encouraging the continued and increasing efforts and activities on the part of civil society organizations throughout the world in advancing a culture of peace as envisaged in the Declaration and Programme of Action,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace[2] is to strengthen further the global

[9] Resolution 73/1.

movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and calls upon all concerned to renew their attention to this objective;

2. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the promotion of a culture of peace in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[10]

3. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

4. *Invites* the entities of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to integrate, as appropriate, the eight action areas of the Programme of Action into their programmes of activities, focusing on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence at the national, regional and international levels;

5. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for strengthening efforts to mobilize all relevant stakeholders within and outside the United Nations system in support of a culture of peace, and invites the Organization to continue to enhance communication and outreach, including through the culture of peace website;

6. *Commends* the practical initiatives and actions by relevant United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the University for Peace, as well as their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

7. *Underlines* that early childhood development contributes to the development of more peaceful societies through advancing equality, tolerance, human development and promoting human rights, and calls for investment in early childhood education, including through effective policies and practices, towards promoting a culture of peace;

8. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations and relevant actors to consider instituting mechanisms to involve youth in the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and intercultural and interreligious dialogue and develop, as appropriate, an understanding of respect for human dignity, pluralism and diversity, including, as appropriate, through education programmes, that could discourage their participation in acts of terrorism, violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, violence, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations to increase its activities that focus on peace education and global citizenship education in order to enhance an understanding among young people of values such as peace, tolerance, openness, inclusion and mutual respect, which are essential in developing a culture of peace;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations peacebuilding architecture to continue to promote peacebuilding and sustaining peace activities, as outlined in its resolution 72/276, and to advance a culture of peace and non-violence in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts at the country level;

11. *Urges* the appropriate authorities to provide age-appropriate education in children's schools that builds a culture of peace and non-violence, including lessons

[10] Resolution 70/1.

in mutual understanding, respect, tolerance, active and global citizenship and human rights;

12. *Encourages* the involvement of media, especially the mass media, in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people;

13. *Commends* civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes;

14. *Encourages* civil society and non-governmental organizations to further strengthen their efforts to promote a culture of peace, inter alia, by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, in line with the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;

15. *Invites* Member States, all entities of the United Nations system and civil society organizations to accord increasing attention to their observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September each year as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with its resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001, and of the International Day of Non-Violence on 2 October, in accordance with its resolution 61/271 of 15 June 2007;

16. *Reiterates* its request to the President of the General Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on the occasion of the anniversary of its adoption, on or around 13 September, and requests the Secretariat to support its effective organization with required logistics support within their respective mandates and existing resources;

17. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to give special attention to the appropriate and befitting observance of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, which falls on 13 September 2019, by holding the high-level forum on that date, which will be an opportunity for renewing the commitments to strengthen further the global movement for the culture of peace;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, in consultation with the Member States and taking into account the observations of civil society organizations, to explore mechanisms and strategies, in particular strategies in the sphere of information and communications technology, for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and to initiate outreach efforts to increase global awareness of the Programme of Action and its eight areas of action aimed at their implementation, including through public information activities by the Department of Public Information for the observance of the twentieth anniversary;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report, within existing resources, on actions taken by Member States, on the basis of information provided by them, and those taken system-wide by all concerned entities of the United Nations to implement the present resolution and on heightened activities by the Organization and its affiliated agencies to implement the Programme of Action and to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

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General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 15
Culture of peace

Bangladesh, Honduras, Nepal, Qatar and Russian Federation: draft resolution

Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam

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General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 40
The situation in Afghanistan

Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/10 of 21 November 2017 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 2189 (2014) of 12 December 2014, 2210 (2015) of 16 March 2015, 2274 (2016) of 15 March 2016, 2344 (2017) of 17 March 2017 and 2405 (2018) of 8 March 2018,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Welcoming the efforts by Afghanistan in the framework of the Transformation Decade (2015–2024) to consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, with the goal of becoming fully self-reliant,

Reaffirming the long-term partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community based on their renewed mutual commitments, as laid down in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, as agreed upon at the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan held on 27 and 28 November 2018, and recalling the long-term commitment of the international community to Afghanistan, reaffirmed at the Geneva Conference, with the aim of continuing to strengthen national ownership and leadership, taking into account the evolving nature of the presence of the international community,

Reaffirming also the commitment of the international community to continuing to support the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012 and in the Wales, Warsaw and Brussels Summit Declarations on Afghanistan, and honouring the memory of the men and

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women of the Afghan and international security forces who have given their lives in the course of duty,

Reiterating the urgent need to tackle the challenges facing Afghanistan, in particular the region-based terrorist or violent extremist activities of the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and criminals, the development of the institutions of the Government of Afghanistan, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law and democratic processes, the fight against corruption, the continuation of justice sector reform, the promotion of the peace process, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011) of 17 June 2011, 2082 (2012) and 2083 (2012) of 17 December 2012, 2160 (2014) and 2161 (2014) of 17 June 2014, 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015, 2255 (2015) of 21 December 2015 and 2368 (2017) of 20 July 2017, an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights, interfaith and intra-faith tolerance and the advancement of economic and social development,

Expressing its deep concern about the continuous high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and all violent attacks, recalling that the Taliban, as well as Al-Qaida, ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, including the obligation of all parties to armed conflict to ensure respect for and the protection of civilians and humanitarian and medical personnel, as well as aid and humanitarian and medical facilities,

Welcoming the courageous steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan to promote an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace through the Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation, including through the offer of talks without preconditions and the temporary ceasefire during Eid al-Fitr, and calling upon the Taliban to respond to the call for peace from the Afghan people and Government,

Welcoming also the achievements of the National Unity Government in political, economic, governance and social reforms and in the management of the transition, underlining the need to preserve past achievements, and urging further improvement in this regard, in particular to address poverty and the delivery of services, stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, increase domestic revenue and promote human rights, especially women's full and equal enjoyment of these rights, children's rights and the rights of persons belonging to minorities,

Welcoming further the holding of parliamentary elections in October 2018, which marked another important step towards the consolidation of democracy in the country, condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and violent attacks aimed at disrupting the elections, commending, in that regard, the people of Afghanistan for their courage and determination in defying terrorism and insecurity to take part in that national process, as well as the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces for the effective manner in which they provided security for the elections, and urging further technical and operational improvements to the electoral process ahead of the presidential elections in April 2019,

Emphasizing the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expressing its appreciation and strong support for all of the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for

Afghanistan in this regard, expressing its appreciation also for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in accordance with Security Council resolution 2405 (2018), and stressing the important role of the Mission in seeking to further improve the coherence and coordination of international civilian efforts, based on the "One United Nations" approach and guided by the principle of reinforcing Afghan ownership and leadership,

Noting the visit of the Security Council to Kabul from 12 to 15 January 2018 as an affirmation of the international community's continued and steadfast support for a peaceful, secure, stable and prosperous Afghanistan,

Welcoming the reports of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein,[1]

1. *Pledges its continued support* to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild a stable, secure and economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism and narcotics, and strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy as a responsible member of the international community;

2. *Encourages* all partners to support constructively the Government of Afghanistan's reform agenda, including as envisaged in the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, so as to secure a prosperous and democratic Afghanistan, focusing on strengthening the constitutional checks and balances that guarantee citizens' rights and obligations and implementing structural reform to enable an accountable and effective Government to deliver concrete progress to its people;

3. *Supports* the continuing and growing ownership of reconstruction and development efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, emphasizes the crucial need to achieve ownership and accountability in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the subnational level, in order to use aid more effectively, and underscores in this regard the importance of the commitments of the international community and of the new set of indicators for the Self-Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, as reiterated in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan in October 2016;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, as reflected in the communiqué adopted at the international Geneva Conference on Afghanistan held on 27 and 28 November 2018, which underscores the importance of the effective implementation of mutual commitments of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community on a reciprocal basis;

5. *Emphasizes* that threats to stability and development in Afghanistan and the region require closer and more coordinated cooperation, as well as greater coherence and complementarity of approach between countries of the region and the international community, for the long-term peace, security, prosperity and sustainable development of the country, and underscores in this regard the standing of Afghanistan as a platform for such international cooperation;

Security

6. *Recognizes* the commitment of the international community to supporting the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces throughout the Transformation Decade, as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012, the Wales Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2014, the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan

[1] A/71/682-S/2016/1049, A/71/826-S/2017/189, A/71/932-S/2017/508, A/72/392-S/2017/783 and A/73/374-S/2018/824.

in 2016 and the Brussels Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2018, including through the Resolute Support Mission, as welcomed by the Security Council in its resolution 2189 (2014);

7. *Welcomes* the pledges and commitments made at the Warsaw Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization held on 8 and 9 July 2016, as reinforced at the Brussels Summit held on 11 and 12 July 2018, to continuing national contributions to the financial sustainment of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces until the end of 2024, to sustaining the Resolute Support Mission and to continuing to deliver training, advice and assistance to the Afghan security institutions, including the police, the air force and special operations forces;

8. *Takes note* of the announcement in 2017 by the United States of America of its strategy for Afghanistan and the adoption by the European Union of its strategy on Afghanistan as important components of the continued support of the international community for the security, development and stability of Afghanistan;

9. *Reiterates once again* its serious concern about the security situation in Afghanistan, stresses the need to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan caused by the region-based violent extremist and other illegal armed groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, expresses concern over the serious threat posed by the presence of foreign terrorist fighters, reiterates in this regard its call for the full and serious implementation of measures and the application of procedures introduced in relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2253 (2015), 2255 (2015) and 2368 (2017), and calls upon all States to strengthen their international and regional cooperation to enhance information-sharing, border control, law enforcement and criminal justice to better counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and returning foreign terrorist fighters in Afghanistan and the region;

10. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the presence of terrorist organizations, in particular Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) affiliates and its brutal acts, including killings of Afghan nationals, and deplorable attempts to undermine relations between communities, commends the progress of the Government of Afghanistan in combating these threats in the country and affirms its support for continued efforts in this regard, and calls for enhanced regional cooperation in the fight against these groups;

11. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all unlawful acts of violence, intimidation and attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks, assassinations, including of public figures, abductions, indiscriminate attacks against civilians, killings, attacks against individuals, media groups and organs of society engaged in the promotion and protection of universally recognized human rights, attacks against humanitarian and medical personnel and civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, and the targeting of Afghan and international forces, which have a deleterious effect on stabilization and development efforts in Afghanistan, and also condemns the use, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and illegal armed groups, of civilians as human shields, as well as Taliban attacks and acts of international terrorists;

12. *Stresses* the need for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to continue to work closely together and to improve coordination in countering such acts, which are threatening peace and stability in Afghanistan and the democratic process, the achievements and the continued implementation of the Afghanistan development gains and process, as well as humanitarian aid measures, recognizes the achievements of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces in this regard, and calls upon all Member States, in particular neighbouring countries,

to deny those groups any form of sanctuary, freedom of operations, movement, recruitment and financial, material or political support that endangers the State system and regional peace and security;

13. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the heinous and cowardly terrorist attack that took place in Kabul on 20 November 2018 targeting a gathering of religious scholars, which resulted in at least 55 people being killed and more than 80 injured, as well as other terrorist attacks throughout Afghanistan which took the lives of Afghan parliamentary candidates, government officials, senior army, police and security officials and civilians, including women and children, diplomatic personnel and religious minorities;

14. *Welcomes* the assumption of full security responsibility by the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, commends the resilience and courage displayed in this regard, calls upon the international community to provide the support necessary to increase security, including public order, law enforcement, the security of Afghanistan's borders and the preservation of the constitutional rights of Afghan citizens, as well as to provide continued support by training, equipping and contributing to the financing of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces to take on the task of securing their country and fighting against terrorism, and underscores the importance of the Chicago, Wales, Warsaw and Brussels Summit Declarations on Afghanistan and other relevant agreements with regional and international partners;

15. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the presence of the Resolute Support Mission, expresses its appreciation to Member States for having contributed personnel, equipment and other resources to the Mission and for the support provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces by all international partners, in particular by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through its previous combat and current non-combat missions in Afghanistan, as well as other bilateral training programmes, and encourages further coordination, where appropriate;

16. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, with a view to ensuring stability and providing conditions for the effective rule of law and respect for human rights for all, including women's full and equal enjoyment of these rights, to continuing its security sector reform by making the security provision, management and oversight of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces more effective and accountable, welcomes in this regard the progress being made in the Afghan national security institutions, as presented at the Geneva Conference, recognizes the importance of the further implementation of the Afghan National Police Strategy and the 10-year vision presented by the Ministry of the Interior, and expresses its appreciation for the support that Member States have provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces;

17. *Recalls* that regional security cooperation plays a key role in maintaining stability in Afghanistan and the region, welcomes the progress achieved by Afghanistan and regional partners in this regard, calls for further efforts by Afghanistan and regional partners and organizations, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to strengthen their partnership and cooperation, takes note of the eighteenth meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization held in Qingdao, China, on 10 June 2018, as it related to Afghanistan, and in this regard also takes note of the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization-Afghanistan Contact Group held in Beijing on 28 May 2018;

18. *Remains deeply concerned* about the persistent problem of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, welcomes the achievements to date in the implementation of the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan aimed at declaring

Afghanistan mine-free by 2023, underscores the importance of sustained international assistance, encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the United Nations and all relevant actors, to continue its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[2] expresses concern at the use of improvised explosive devices by the Taliban against civilians and the Afghan security forces, and notes the need to enhance coordination and information-sharing between both Member States and the private sector to prevent the flow of improvised explosive device components to the Taliban;

Peace and reconciliation

19. *Recognizes* that an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned inclusive peace process backed by regional actors, in particular Pakistan, supported by the international community, is essential for achieving long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan and reiterates its firm commitment to supporting the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts in this regard, and that, to be successful, a political solution must ensure the renunciation of violence and the breaking of all ties to international terrorism, protect the human rights of all, including women, children and persons belonging to minorities, in accordance with international law and as enshrined in the Constitution of Afghanistan, and build a peaceful Afghanistan, with full respect for the implementation of the measures and application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2160 (2014) and 2255 (2015), as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council, calls upon all relevant States, especially neighbouring countries, and international organizations to remain engaged in the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, and recognizes the impact that terrorist attacks have on the Afghan people, while underlining that such acts should not hinder efforts to achieve a peace settlement;

20. *Welcomes* the offer made by the Government of Afghanistan to begin direct negotiations within the framework of a comprehensive peace plan and the offer made to the Taliban of talks without preconditions at the second meeting of the Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation on 28 February 2018, and calls upon the Taliban to accept this offer without any preconditions and without the threat of violence, with the aim of agreeing on an ultimate political settlement that leads to sustainable peace for the people of Afghanistan;

21. *Also welcomes* the temporary and partial ceasefire announced separately by the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban, for the end of Ramadan and the Eid al-Fitr holiday, expresses its strong disappointment that the Taliban has not agreed to the Government's offer to extend or repeat them, and urges the Taliban to respond to the call for peace from the Afghan people;

22. *Encourages* Afghanistan and Pakistan to enhance their relationship, which could lead to cooperation to combat terrorism effectively and move forward the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, takes note, in that regard, of the conclusion of the Afghanistan-Pakistan Action Plan for Peace and Solidarity as an important mechanism of cooperation, and underscores the importance of the effective implementation of the commitments made;

23. *Recalls* that women play a vital role in the peace process, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and in related resolutions, including resolution 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015, welcomes steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its national action plan on women, peace and security, recognizes in this regard the increasing role of

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

women in the peace process, as manifested in their representation in the High Peace Council and its provincial committees and secretariats, as well as their contribution to the development of the Afghanistan peace and reconciliation strategy, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General,[3] supports further efforts in this regard, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to further support the active participation of women in the peace process;

24. *Recognizes* that there is no purely military solution to ensure the stability of Afghanistan, welcomes the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, as articulated at the second meeting of the Kabul Process for Peace and Security Cooperation as a main forum and vehicle under the leadership of the Government of Afghanistan to lead peace efforts, notes the work of the Quadrilateral Coordination Group, the International Contact Group on Afghanistan, the Tashkent dialogue consultations and the Moscow format consultations to reinforce Afghan-led and Afghan-owned efforts towards the holding of early direct peace talks between the Government of Afghanistan and authorized representatives of Taliban groups, and calls upon all regional and international partners of Afghanistan to continue their efforts, recognizing that success can be achieved only through the unified and close coordination of efforts under the leadership and ownership of the Government of Afghanistan;

Democracy

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of all parties in Afghanistan working together to achieve a unified, peaceful, democratic and prosperous future for all the people of Afghanistan;

26. *Recalls* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to improving Afghanistan's electoral process, welcomes the parliamentary elections held in October 2018 and commends the participation and courage of millions of Afghans, including women as voters and candidates, condemns in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and violent attacks aimed at disrupting the elections, reiterates the important role of the independent Afghan electoral institutions in upholding the integrity of the electoral process, calls upon all stakeholders to continue to engage with the electoral institutions with patience and respect and to channel complaints through established constitutional mechanisms in line with Afghanistan's electoral laws and Constitution, and also calls upon Afghanistan's Government and institutions, including the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission, to ensure that the forthcoming presidential elections and other elections foreseen in 2019 are credible, inclusive, fair and free, safe and transparent by continuing to implement the necessary electoral reforms and further technical and operational improvements to strengthen trust and confidence, including the updating of the voter registration databases;

27. *Welcomes* the increasingly wide and comprehensive dialogue on the political transition towards strengthening the unity of the Afghan people, and underscores its importance for consolidating democracy and Afghan political stability;

28. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to reform effectively the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability, and welcomes the commitments, efforts and progress made by the Government in this regard;

[3] A/72/392-S/2017/783.

Rule of law, human rights and good governance

29. *Emphasizes* that the rule of law, human rights and good governance form the foundation for the achievement of a stable and prosperous Afghanistan;

30. *Recalls* the constitutional guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, without discrimination of any kind, stresses the need to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, in accordance with obligations under applicable international law, in particular those regarding the full enjoyment by women and children of their human rights, and acknowledges efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard;

31. *Recognizes* the membership of Afghanistan in the Human Rights Council, and welcomes the commitment and responsibility assumed in upholding and promoting human rights at the national, regional and international levels, within the framework of relevant international human rights instruments to which it is a party;

32. *Reiterates its concern* at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist and violent extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals, for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, and stresses the need to further promote tolerance and to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution and the international covenants that Afghanistan adheres to;

33. *Emphasizes* the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, and stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law;

34. *Calls for* the full implementation of the mass media law, while noting with concern and condemning the continuing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists, such as cases of abduction and even the killing of journalists by terrorist and violent extremist and criminal groups, urges that the harassment of and attacks on journalists be investigated by Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the presidential decree of 3 January 2017 on better implementation of the laws related to mass media to reinforce freedom of expression and ensure access to information and the creation of a journalists' support fund aimed at assisting the bereaved families of journalists and reporters;

35. *Reiterates* its unwavering commitment and that of the Government of Afghanistan to achieving the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life, commends the achievements and efforts of the Government aimed at countering discrimination and protecting and promoting the equal rights of women and men consistent with its international obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and pursuant to the Afghan Constitution, the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan, the Afghan national action plan on women, peace and security, the law on the elimination of violence against women and the national strategy to prevent violence against women, and welcomes recent measures taken towards the protection of women's and girls' full and equal enjoyment of human rights, including the establishment of a

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

senior position in the Office of the Attorney General on the elimination of violence against women and the appointment of 44 female attorneys in 25 provinces;

36. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan, recalls the need for the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[5] its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[6] and its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict[7] by all States parties, as well as of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 and all other subsequent resolutions on children and armed conflict, and Council resolutions 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016 on attacks against schools and hospitals, in particular by terrorist and violent extremist and criminal groups, commends the Government of Afghanistan for introducing legislation banning the recruitment and use of children and for establishing local child protection units, and welcomes the progress made on the implementation of the action plan for the prevention of underage recruitment, signed in January 2011, and the annex thereto on children associated with the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, and of the road map towards compliance, as well as the signing in 2017 of a child protection policy to protect children from the effects of armed conflict;

37. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 2250 (2015) of 9 December 2015 and 2419 (2018) of 6 June 2018 on youth, peace and security, in which the Council reaffirmed the important role youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, welcomes the appointment of Afghanistan's first youth representative to the United Nations, recognizes in this regard the Government of Afghanistan's efforts in enhancing the representation of youth for the prevention and resolution of conflict, and encourages continued efforts in this regard;

38. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the anti-corruption commitment made by the Government of Afghanistan, welcomes in this respect the establishment of the National High Council for Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption, the Anti-Corruption Justice Centre and the National Procurement Commission, the adoption on 28 September 2017 of the Afghanistan National Strategy for Combating Corruption, the enactment of the revised penal code and the anti-corruption law of 2018 and the finalization of anti-corruption action plans for various ministries as measures taken by the Government to implement its comprehensive reform agenda, strengthen governance and achieve a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government, takes note in this regard of the progress made thus far against the benchmarks of its comprehensive reform agenda presented and endorsed at the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan and again at the third Senior Officials Meeting, and urges continued decisive action and accelerated implementation by the Government to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government;

39. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of Afghanistan to meet governance objectives in this regard;

Counter-narcotics

40. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in fighting drug production in Afghanistan, takes note of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2018: Cultivation and*

[5] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[6] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.
[7] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

Production, released on 19 November 2018, which, inter alia, notes a significant decrease in the production and cultivation of drugs, due in part to the drought affecting Afghanistan, notes that areas under cultivation remain at high levels, stresses the need to further strengthen joint, coordinated and resolute efforts by the Government, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and international and regional actors, within their designated responsibilities, and encourages international and regional cooperation with Afghanistan in its sustained efforts to address drug production and trafficking;

41. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law, human rights and economic and social development, in particular in rural areas, including the development of improved alternative livelihood programmes;

42. *Notes with great concern* the strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and other terrorist groups, violent and extremist groups and criminal groups, which pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan and the region, and stresses the importance of the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in this regard, including resolutions 2255 (2015) and 2368 (2017), and in this regard emphasizes the need for the Committee established pursuant to Council resolution 1988 (2011) and the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) to continue to pay attention to the linkages between the proceeds of organized crime, inter alia, the illicit production and trafficking of drugs and their chemical precursors and the financing, respectively, of the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, and of ISIL (Da'esh), Al Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities;

43. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Government of Afghanistan in its National Drug Control Strategy and National Drug Action Plan, calls for such efforts to eliminate the cultivation and production of, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs, increase support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development for the creation of improved alternative, licit livelihoods for farmers and demand reduction support, increase public awareness of counter-narcotics issues and build the capacity of drug control institutions and care and treatment centres for drug users, reiterates its call upon the international community to channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government of Afghanistan, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant organizations and mechanisms to the extent possible, notes that the problem of production, cultivation, trafficking in and consumption of narcotic drugs, as well as the problem of precursors, should be addressed on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, and welcomes and supports relevant international and regional projects and activities, including those carried out by Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan within the framework of the triangular initiative to counter narcotics, as well as the Paris Pact initiative;[8]

[8] See S/2003/641, annex.

Social and economic development

44. *Notes* Afghanistan's position as the top improver in the World Bank's *Doing Business 2019* report and the work of the Government of Afghanistan in implementing reforms to improve the business regulatory framework;

45. *Welcomes* the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework setting out the strategic policy priorities of Afghanistan towards achieving self-reliance and the presentation of five national priority programmes, on a citizens' charter, women's economic empowerment, urban development, comprehensive agriculture and national infrastructure, to improve the conditions for advancing sustainable development and stability;

46. *Renews its commitment* to long-term support for the economic development of Afghanistan on the basis of mutual accountability as stated in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework, urgently appeals to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations, including the international and regional financial institutions, to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the national priority programmes contained therein, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, development, financial, educational, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan, and underscores the crucial importance of continued and sequenced implementation of the reform agenda, national priority programmes and the development and governance goals as agreed in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework;

47. *Recognizes* the substantial development and notable progress achieved by Afghanistan with the steadfast support of the international community in the past years, expresses its support for the reaffirmation and consolidation of the partnership between Afghanistan and the international community midway through the Transformation Decade (2015–2024), during which Afghanistan will consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, urges the Government of Afghanistan to involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, welcomes the presentation by the Government of Afghanistan of the National Priority Programme on Women's Economic Empowerment and encourages its continued implementation, and welcomes the launch of the women's economic empowerment plan in March 2017 and the creation of a coordination unit for the National Priority Programme within the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled as important measures for the implementation of the National Priority Programme on Women's Economic Empowerment;

48. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the Self-Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework and the commitment to continuing the reforms agreed in the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework and the monitoring mechanism included therein, in which the Government of Afghanistan reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening governance, grounded in human rights, the rule of law and adherence to the Afghan Constitution and held it as integral to sustained growth and economic development, and in which the international community committed to enhancing the efficiency of development aid by aligning assistance with the Afghan national priority programmes and by channelling assistance through the national budget of the Government, as outlined in the Tokyo Declaration[9] and reaffirmed in

[9] A/66/867-S/2012/532, annex I.

the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan and the new Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework indicators;

49. *Commends* the Government of Afghanistan for aligning its new development strategy with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[10] and urges the international community to assist the Government in implementing its unfinished Millennium Development Goals and its Sustainable Development Goals;

50. *Also commends* the Government of Afghanistan for improving budgetary transparency and its efforts to reach fiscal sustainability, notes the challenges ahead, and urges that continued efforts be made to meet revenue targets;

51. *Recognizes* the necessity for further improvement in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and support the development of the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services at the national, provincial and local levels, in particular education and public health services;

52. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children, especially Afghan girls, with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, and welcomes the progress achieved in the sector of public education;

53. *Notes with concern* the severe drought affecting Afghanistan, with 3.3 million Afghans facing emergency-level food insecurity and more than 220,000 Afghans displaced from their homes, and urges the international community to provide the necessary support and to work with the Government of Afghanistan and humanitarian organizations to respond effectively to the drought needs identified in the revised Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan without delay, prior to the onset of winter;

54. *Underscores* the urgent need to address the impacts of climate change in Afghanistan, and emphasizes the need for local, subnational, national, regional and international action to enhance efforts to build resilience, especially for the most vulnerable, by investing in resilience, including disaster risk reduction, strengthening adaptation strategies and enhancing joint risk assessments and risk management strategies, including early warning systems in the country to monitor environmental changes, to cut the impact and cost of natural disasters;

Refugees

55. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, asks for continued generous support by the international community, and asks relevant international organizations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, to continue to work closely with Afghanistan and the countries hosting Afghan refugees with a view to facilitating their voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return, rehabilitation and reintegration;

56. *Welcomes* the outcome of the high-level segment on the Afghan refugee problem of the sixty-sixth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[11] emphasizes the importance of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries, and looks forward to the

[10] Resolution 70/1.

[11] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/70/12/Add.1), annex II.

further implementation of the joint communiqué of the International Conference on the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries aimed at increased sustainability of returns and continued support for host countries, through the sustained support and the directed efforts of the international community;

57. *Expresses its concern* over the increase in the number of internally displaced persons and refugees from Afghanistan, stresses that stability and development in Afghanistan can be achieved if its citizens can see a future for themselves within their country, reiterates to host countries and the international community the obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and refugees, and calls upon countries to continue to accept an appropriate number of Afghan refugees for resettlement as a manifestation of their shared responsibility and solidarity;

58. *Takes note* of the cooperation framework signed between the Government of Afghanistan and the European Union, entitled "Joint way forward on migration issues", and in this context underscores the importance of close and effective cooperation to address the problem of irregular migration in a comprehensive manner, with due focus on and consideration of addressing the root causes of migration, including through job creation and the establishment of returnees' livelihoods in Afghanistan, and in accordance with international commitments and obligations, including the human rights and legal rights of all migrants and the rights of persons in need of international protection in line with the provisions of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[12] and the 1967 Protocol thereto,[13] as applicable;

59. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to making the repatriation and reintegration of Afghan refugees one of its highest national priorities, including their voluntary, safe and dignified return and their sustainable reintegration into national development planning and prioritization processes, takes note in this regard of the accession of Afghanistan to the Protocol against the smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[14] on 2 February 2017, and encourages and supports all efforts of the Government towards the implementation of this commitment;

60. *Reaffirms its firm support* for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries endorsed by the international community in 2012, and acknowledges the Enhanced Voluntary Return and Reintegration Package for Afghan Refugees as an innovative way to enhance sustainable return and reintegration;

61. *Welcomes* the continued return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable manner, while noting with concern the security challenges of Afghanistan;

Regional cooperation

62. *Stresses* the crucial importance of advancing constructive and sustainable regional cooperation as an effective means of promoting and complementing peace,

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.
[13] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.
[14] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan, recognizes in this regard the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners and regional organizations, recalls the importance of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations[15] of 22 December 2002 and welcomes in this regard the continued commitment of the international community to supporting the stability and development of Afghanistan, encourages further improved relations and enhanced engagement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, calls for further efforts in this regard, including in the framework of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan and by regional organizations and long-term strategic partnerships and other agreements aimed at achieving a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan, welcomes international and regional initiatives in this regard, such as those of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan process, the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Quadrilateral Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism in Counter-Terrorism comprising the armed forces of Afghanistan, China, Pakistan and Tajikistan, the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan dialogues and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia;

63. *Welcomes* the important initiatives for regional connectivity, notably in the frameworks of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process confidence-building measures to facilitate increased trade throughout the region, commends the holding of the seventh Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan in Ashgabat on 14 and 15 November 2017, and looks forward to the forthcoming Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference, to be held in Turkey in 2019;

64. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the importance of strengthening local and regional networks of transportation that will facilitate connectivity for economic development, stability and self-sustainability, particularly the completion and maintenance of local railroad and land routes, the development of regional projects to foster further connectivity and the enhancement of international civil aviation capabilities;

65. *Welcomes and urges* further efforts to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional connectivity, trade and transit, acknowledges the progress made on such projects and initiatives as the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project, the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000), the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TAP) 500 and Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TUTAP) electricity projects, the Pakistan-Afghanistan-Tajikistan Regional Integration Programme (PATRIP), the Chabahar agreement between Afghanistan, India and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the transport of development assistance from India to Afghanistan through the Chabahar port, the Lapis Lazuli Transit, Trade and Transport Route agreement and the Turkmenistan-Aqina railway segment and on bilateral transit trade agreements, expanded consular visa cooperation and the facilitation of business travel, to expand trade, increase foreign investments and develop infrastructure, including infrastructural connectivity, energy supply, transport and integrated border management, with a view to promoting sustainable economic growth and the creation of jobs in Afghanistan and the region, notes the historical role of Afghanistan as a land bridge in Asia, recalls that such regional economic cooperation plays an important role in achieving stability and development in Afghanistan, in this regard

[15] S/2002/1416, annex.

urges all relevant stakeholders to create a feasible and secure environment for the full implementation of these development initiatives and trade agreements, and welcomes the progress made by these initiatives and projects in enhancing regional connectivity, trade and transit, including the creation of direct air freight corridors between Afghanistan and China, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates;

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board

66. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as mandated by the Security Council in its resolution 2405 (2018), stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations in promoting a more coherent international engagement, and acknowledges the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board in this regard;

67. *Emphasizes the importance* of the strategic review of the mandated tasks, priorities and related resources of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and calls for the continued implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General, with a view to supporting efforts for peace and ensuring greater coordination, coherence and efficiency among relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, based on the "One United Nations" approach, in line with the reform agenda and the national priority programmes of the Government of Afghanistan;

68. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three months on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

69. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 40
The situation in Afghanistan

Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The situation in Afghanistan

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates

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Agenda item 128 (b)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Bangladesh: draft resolution**

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997, 53/16 of 29 October 1998, 54/7 of 25 October 1999, 55/9 of 30 October 2000, 56/47 of 7 December 2001, 57/42 of 21 November 2002, 59/8 of 22 October 2004, 61/49 of 4 December 2006, 63/114 of 5 December 2008, 65/140 of 16 December 2010, 67/264 of 17 May 2013, 69/317 of 10 September 2015 and 72/74 of 6 December 2017,

Recalling also its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference[1] to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

Welcoming the efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which have been undertaken in coordination with the United Nations and in full respect of the Charter of the United Nations, in strengthening its role in conflict prevention, confidence-building, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation, mediation and preventive diplomacy, including conflict situations involving Muslim communities,

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* Reissued for technical reasons on 6 December 2018.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

[1] On 28 June 2011, the Organization of the Islamic Conference changed its name to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Please recycle

Noting the adoption by the Islamic Summit Conference at its thirteenth session, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 14 and 15 April 2016, of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation 2025 Programme of Action and the adoption on 14 March 2008 by the Islamic Summit Conference at its eleventh session, held in Dakar on 13 and 14 March 2008, of the amended Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its registration with the United Nations Secretariat,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[2]

Taking into account the desire of the two organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, the promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, fundamental human rights, economic and social development, and combating international terrorism,

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and in this regard taking note of the holding, on 17 November 2016, of the Security Council briefing on the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,[3] as well as the high-level meeting of the Council of 28 October 2013 on strengthening the partnership synergy between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the statement by the President of the Council adopted as an outcome of the meeting,[4] through which the Council, inter alia, recognized and further encouraged the active contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the Secretary-General, in his report, recognized the strengthening of practical cooperation and the building of complementarity between the United Nations, its specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the 10 priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations and their respective agencies and institutions, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

Noting further that the Secretaries-General of the two organizations have met regularly and that consultations among senior officials of the two organizations have enhanced cooperation,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the results of the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

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[2] A/73/328-S/2018/592.

[3] See S/PV.7813.

[4] S/PRST/2013/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Rabat from 3 to 5 July 2018, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/74, to review and appraise the level of cooperation in the fields of international peace and security, science and technology, trade and development, implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,[5] protection of and assistance to refugees, human rights, human resource development, food security and agriculture, environment, health and population, arts and crafts, and the promotion of heritage, and of the fact that these meetings are now being held every two years, with the next meeting scheduled for 2020, to be hosted by the United Nations,

Acknowledging the intention expressed by the representatives of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to reinforce cooperation and understanding in areas of common interest, noting the commitment of both organizations to fostering a global dialogue for the promotion of tolerance and peace, calling for enhanced cooperation to promote better understanding across countries, religions, cultures and civilizations, and in this regard using, inter alia, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations as a useful tool in advancing that agenda in international forums, and welcoming the promotion of the effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 of 24 March 2011[6] to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, and in this regard, in particular, the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief,

Taking into account the strengthened spirit of cooperation reflected in the agreement on a matrix of activities within the framework of United Nations-Organization of Islamic Cooperation collaboration, to be implemented over the next biennium,

Recalling that the Organization of Islamic Cooperation remains an important partner of the United Nations in peace, security and the fostering of a culture of peace at the global level, and noting various decisions reached by the two sides, including the agreement to continue cooperation in conflict prevention and resolution, mediation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, promotion of good governance at the national and international levels, combating international terrorism, preventing violent extremism, countering religious intolerance, including Islamophobia, promoting and protecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, humanitarian assistance and capacity-building in electoral assistance, and the agreement to improve the follow-up mechanism,

Noting the growing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on mediation,

Noting also the commitment of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to building its capacity in the field of conflict prevention and resolution, mediation and preventive diplomacy through conferences, training sessions and workshops delivered by experts and organizations specializing in that field and the organization of "Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections" training courses and round-table discussions on election monitoring at the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in February 2014,

Noting further the adoption by the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, at its forty-fifth session, of the resolution on strengthening the mediation capacity of the Organization and the holding of the first

[5] See resolution 70/1.

[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

and second Conferences of Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States on Mediation on 21 November 2017 and 29 November 2018,

Noting the contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding within the framework of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and other initiatives in this regard,

Welcoming the initiatives for interfaith dialogue undertaken by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, as well as their member States, including the activities of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and emphasizing the importance of engaging relevant United Nations agencies in promoting interfaith dialogue and other related activities, as well as General Assembly resolutions 68/127 of 18 December 2013, 70/109 of 10 December 2015 and 72/241 of 20 December 2017 on a world against violence and violent extremism,

Taking note of the cooperation between the Independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and relevant United Nations bodies, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and recognizing the need for further enhancing this cooperation,

Noting the adoption by the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, held in Istanbul from 1 to 3 November 2016, of its revised Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women and its implementation mechanism, and the establishment of the Advisory Women Council, as well as activities of the Department of Family Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization to deal specifically with issues concerning women and children, and underscoring the cooperation between the Department and relevant United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),

Welcoming the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, at its forty-fifth session, to establish the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Women's Achievement Award so as to encourage and promote the advancement and empowerment of women,

Noting with appreciation the close and multifaceted cooperation between the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation with a view to strengthening the capacities of the two organizations to address challenges to development and social progress, including ongoing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund on health issues, as well as discussions between the United Nations Children's Fund and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on formalizing their partnership through specific initiatives linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, as part of the relevant sections of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation 2025 Programme of Action,

Welcoming the existing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, including dialogue between the two entities on reaching out to non-governmental organizations and other humanitarian actors in States members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as participation in joint activities and events and information-sharing, with a view to furthering proactive engagement and implementing concrete programmes in the areas of capacity-building, emergency assistance and strategic partnerships,

Welcoming also the decision taken by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at the general

meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Istanbul from 20 to 22 May 2014, to co-organize an event under the auspices of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue on the theme "Countering violent extremism: elements of an effective strategy",

Noting the organization of the brainstorming session to review opportunities for collaboration between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the political and security situation in the Middle East, at the General Secretariat of the Organization in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 10 and 11 May 2017, and the agreement to organize a similar session on African issues later,

Noting also the request of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for greater interaction between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Organization extending beyond the current biennial arrangement so as to include periodic reviews of cooperation, in the light of the expanding areas of cooperation between the two organizations,

Noting with appreciation the determination of the two organizations to further strengthen the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Urges* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in areas of mutual interest, as appropriate;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Affirms* that the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation share a common goal of promoting and facilitating the Middle East peace process so that the process can reach its objective of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and also share a common objective of fostering peaceful and political solutions to other conflicts in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council;

5. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, human rights and fundamental freedoms, countering international terrorism, including violent extremism, addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, capacity-building, health-related issues such as combating pandemic and endemic diseases, protection of the environment, climate change, emergency relief and rehabilitation and technical cooperation;

6. *Welcomes* the strong commitment of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the fight against violent extremism and terrorist groups such as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, Al-Nusrah Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, affirms the important role of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in responding, in coordination with the United Nations, to the threat posed by violent extremism, in particular with regard to countering violent extremism and developing counter-narratives, and welcomes the establishment of Sawt Al-Hikma (the Voice of Wisdom) and the Centre for Dialogue, Peace and Understanding within the General Secretariat of the Organization of

Islamic Cooperation to delegitimize and deconstruct the extremist narratives and dismantle their contexts, especially through social media;

7. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation towards combating intolerance and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, recognizes the strong need for global awareness about religious intolerance, condemns any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and welcomes cooperation towards addressing the issue with all urgency, including through the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief;

8. *Invites* increased cooperation and exchanges between the Independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

9. *Requests* the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen cooperation in addressing the social and economic issues that affect the efforts of Member States to eradicate poverty, achieve sustainable development and realize the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;[5]

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review and explore innovative ways and means of enhancing the mechanisms of such cooperation through the recent establishment of a working group;

11. *Affirms* that, to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of the review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation should continue to be held once every two years and to include joint inter-agency sectoral or thematic meetings;

12. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the field of counter terrorism, and notes the signing of a memorandum of understanding on 25 September 2018;

13. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment, in particular the signing of a memorandum of understanding on 22 September 2017;

14. *Further welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in particular the signing of a memorandum of cooperation on 24 January 2016, which provides, inter alia, for the elaboration of a strategic plan for joint programmes, activities and projects;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and their subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees to intensify actions in creating bilateral frameworks for cooperation in the area of human and industrial capacity development, trade promotion, transportation and tourism;

16. *Invites* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, including the Islamic Development Bank, and its member States

in their efforts to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the fields of peacemaking, preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and notes the close cooperation between the two organizations in reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Central African Republic, Mali, Sierra Leone and Somalia;

18. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and to develop practical modalities for such cooperation;

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which was marked by the opening of the representation office of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris, and calls upon the two organizations to expand their cooperation in the protection of cultural and historic heritage;

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, cultural, humanitarian and scientific fields;

21. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to reinforcing cooperation in areas of common interest between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, also welcomes the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

22. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, particularly in the fields of science and technology, higher education, health and environment, by negotiating cooperation agreements and through necessary contacts and meetings of the respective focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

23. *Invites* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to consider providing increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees in order to strengthen their capacities for cooperation;

24. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to increase awareness, as appropriate, of the work and activities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in accordance with established practice between the United Nations and other regional organizations;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation".